

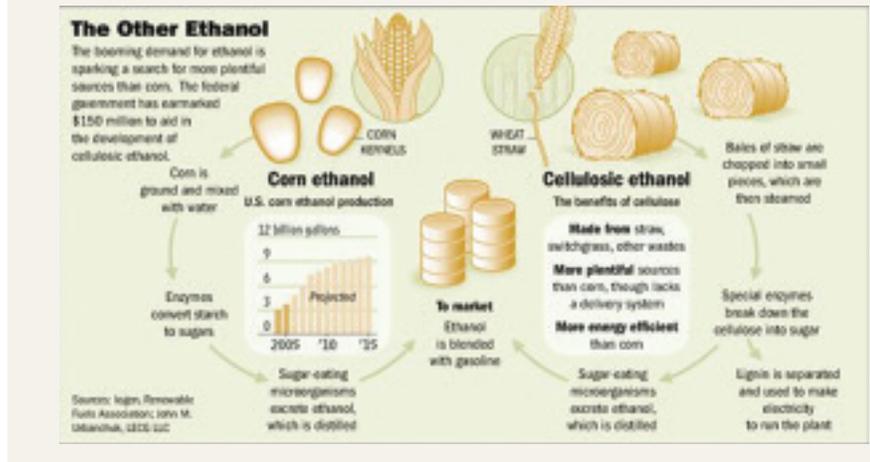
Nunes' Congressional Office Serves Constituents

Linda Dias of Lemon Cove had a problem with a government agency and tried to straighten it out for many months but the agency would not listen. After butting her head against the wall, she contacted Devin Nunes' office and told them what had happened. "The problem was taken care of in a matter of weeks," said Linda. She now reminds her friends that they can go to their representative in Congress and get help if they are having problems with a government agency.

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This is a blend of normal ethanol that can be produced from a great diversity of biomass including waste from urban, agricultural, and forestry sources, corn stalks, rice straw, wood chips, or "energy crops" such as switch grass. According to Department of Energy studies, one of the benefits of cellulosic ethanol is that it reduces greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 85% over reformulated gasoline. By contrast, sugar-fermented ethanol reduces GHG emissions by 18% to 29% over gasoline.

Nonetheless, the crisis we face is one that has many problems. The American-Made Energy Freedom Act contains a number of solutions, but thirty years of bad policy can not be wiped away overnight. Exploration in ANWR and the Outer Continental Shelf, coupled with serious investments in renewable fuels, is a good start; but we also need to develop the infrastructure to get those resources to the market. Without Liquid Natural Gas terminals, nuclear plants, refineries, pipelines, or energy-efficient homes and vehicles, we will surely face economic decline. To remain competitive we need to invest in current technologies, but we also need to take leaps into the future.



Alternative resources like biomass, clean coal, gas hydrates, oil shale, oil sands, hydrogen, ethanol, and other alternative technologies should play a central role in the pursuit of energy independence.

There is no quick fix to the problem, but it is clear that many Americans can not continue to afford increased energy prices. Americans need to come to grips with the onerous policies of the past that are strangling us now – this is an American problem that requires an American-Made solution.

Defending Farmers Against Attacks from Serial Litigators

Recently, several lawsuits were filed by environmental groups against farmers, claiming that manure is a hazardous substance or pollutant. If these cases are successful, farmers could be held liable under the "Superfund" law (CERCLA) and the "Community Right-to-Know Act" (EPCRA).

Congress must take action to clarify that it never intended to regulate manure in the same manner that toxic waste dumps and spills such as Love Canal – the environmental disaster during the 1970's in upstate New York – are regulated. Animal agriculture operations

are already heavily regulated by local, state and federal authorities. They are also required to have permits under the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act and are subject to many other laws. Furthermore, efforts to equate farmers with hazardous polluters are irresponsible, inappropriate and a gross distortion of the intent of Congress in adopting laws governing toxic waste.

To rectify this situation, Representative Nunes co-sponsored H.R. 4341, which would simply exclude manure from the definition of "hazardous substance" or "pollutant or contaminant."